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**WEST BANK/GAZA**

## FACT SHEET

### DEMOCRACY AND GOVERNANCE OFFICE

### PROJECT PROFILE

#### Palestinian Electoral Assistance Program (PEAP)

**JUNE 2010**



*Voter at a USAID-supported polling station*

#### CHALLENGES

- Volatile political environment in the West Bank and Gaza.
- Suspended Palestinian Legislative Council.
- Uncertain prospects of future elections.
- Local laws do not support decentralization, which is required for success.

#### CONTACT INFO

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#### Project Overview

Through the Palestinian Electoral Assistance Program (PEAP), USAID provides technical assistance to the Palestinian Central Elections Commission (CEC) to strengthen its capacity to convene free and fair elections.

#### Goals

- Strengthen the capacity of the CEC as an independent, credible and effective electoral authority under a clear legal mandate based on international standards.
- Strength development of the electoral framework.
- Upgrade the capabilities and skills of CEC staff.
- Improve the CEC's overall technical capacity to enable it to carry out its duties effectively.

#### Activities

PEAP supports the Palestinian electoral process with a structured and strategic approach to providing direct technical assistance to the Central Election Commission (CEC) through activities that further seek to strengthen the credibility and effective management of the election administration.

#### Successes

- Developed design of the continuous voter registration process and prepared ground for development of the legal framework to allow individual voters the opportunity to register throughout the year.
- Provided expertise and coordination assistance to the Technical Committee for Electoral Districts, which includes representatives of the CEC, the Ministry of Local Government, the Ministry of Planning and the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics.
- Conducted continuing education for CEC staff through the widely and internationally recognized BRIDGE training (Building Resources in Democracy, Governance and Elections).
- Established a contingency fund for the purchase of commodities and services required for electoral events, such as the publication of printed materials, rental of facilities or needed expertise.

#### Project Detail

Implementing Partner: CEP/PS/IFES; Life of Project: 01/13/2005-09/30/2011; Total Estimated Cost: \$6,215,532.